

THE
Geography and History
OF
MONS:

OR,

A Description of What is to be Seen, and An
Account of What Passes in and about that

TOWN.

First, Written in *French*, for the Service of an *Imperial*
Officer, in the Army about MONS; and Now
Done, a Second Time, in *English*, for the Satisfa-
ction of our *British* Officers.

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Geography and History

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THE Geography and History OF MONS:

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TOWN.

MONS is a Great Town, the Capital City of all *Hainault*,
and the Principal Place of Residence of the Governour,
and the other Officers, who Compose, both the Par-
ticular Courts, and the General Councils, of that Whole Pro-
vince.

'Tis Situate on the Banks of the River *Tronille*, in the Middle
of a Large Plain, that Reigns all around it, for Several Leagues,
on both Sides the River *Haine*: But just where the Town
Stands, there's a Small Eminence, Included within it; the

Bank of the *Trouille* on the one Side there, being a Little Rising Ground, or Hill, That on the other Side, a Great Level, or Plain: And immediately without the Town, the Ground is a Great Marish, Caus'd principally by an Abundance of Waters, Proceeding from the Confluence of those Two Rivers, of a great many Rivulets, of some Brooks, and of several Canals, all Rendevousing thereabouts, and partly by the Continuance of the Plain, which Favours That of the Marish, Making it to Run out for Half a League from the Walls, for Three Quarters, and for a Whole League in some Places; so that it Reigns about the Town, for a Great Way off, and with such a Great Deal of Water, that it can't be well Drain'd, except on the East Side towards *Namur*, where the Ground Rises too High for it, and on the West towards *Valenciennes*, where there is likewise a Little Rising.

The Chief of those Waters, that Render the Country about *MONS* so Marishy, are these two Rivers, the *Trouille*, and the *Haine*.

The *Trouille* is but a Small River, Taking its Rise near the Village of *Merieux*, in the same Province of *Hainault*, Three Leagues and a Half from the Town of *MONS*, on the South Side. It has at first its Course from South to North, then Makes a Turn within *MONS*, Runs afterwards from East to West, and at length Falls into the River *Haine*, a League above the Fortrefs of *St. Guislain*, likewise ith' same Province, Three Quarters of a League from *MONS*, on the West Side.

Upon both the Sides of this River, just where it Makes the Turn from the North to the West, or rather from the North-East to the North-West, Stands *MONS*, Seated upon the Two Banks, the Bank there on the East Side, being an Eminence, or Hill, That on the West Side, a Flat Ground, or Plain; and the River Running thorough the Town, North-East when it Goes in, and North-West when it Goes out, Divides it into Two very Unequal Parts, the Part on the East Side,
upon

upon the Hill, being by far the Greater, That on the West Side, in the Plain, much the Lesser; just Three Leagues and a Half below where it Rises, near *Merieux*, and about Three Quarters of a League above where it Falls into the *Haine*, not far from *St. Guislain*: That Part of the River which is above *MONS*, is Call'd, the Upper *Trouille*; and below, 'tis Nam'd, the Lower.

The *Haine* is also but a Small River, tho' somewhat Greater than the *Trouille*, having its Source near the Town of *Fontaine l'Eveque*, in the same Province of *Hainault*, Four Leagues and a Half from the Town of *MONS*, on the East Side. At first it Runs North, then Turns West, afterwards North-West, then South-West, and again West; so, Making a great many Turnings and Windings, as it Goes thorough the Country, but having the Main of its Course from East to West, especially 'tis so as it Passes by *MONS*, it at length Falls into the River *Scheld*, a little above the Fortrefs of *Condé*, likewise ith' same Province, Four Leagues and a Quarter from *MONS*, on the West Side.

Upon the South Side of this River, at a Place where it Runs from East to West, or rather from North-East to South-West, Stands *MONS*, Seated on an Eminence, upon the Banks of the *Trouille*, in the Middle of the Plain on that Side the *Haine*, and at the Distance of betwixt a Quarter and Half a League from the River, where it Passes by the Town; just Four Leagues and a Half below where it Rises, near *Fontaine l'Eveque*, and about Four Leagues and a Quarter above where it Falls into the *Scheld*, hard by *Condé*: That Part of the River which is above *MONS*, is Call'd, the Upper *Haine*; and below, 'tis Nam'd, the Lower.

Besides those Two Rivers, there are abundance of other Waters, that Contribute to Render the Ground thereabouts a Marsh, a great many Rivulets, of Lesser Note, some Brooks, and several Canals, Detach'd from those Rivers, both above and below *MONS*, that are all Made to Run, Turning and Wind-

Winding thorough the Country, about the Town, into the Lakes and Ponds, to Supply them with Water; through the Town, into the Ditches and Kennels, for the Conveniency of the People; and out of the Town, away into the Channels of the Lower *Troutte* and *Haine*, ith Design to Render 'em Navigable.

In this Manner it Happens, that the Country about *MONS* is so Marishy : The Town is so Surrounded, and the Territory Adjoining so Planted, with such an Abundance and Plenty of Waters, Proceeding from a Confluence and Complication, of so many Rivers, Rivulets, Brooks, and Canals, all Rendevousing there on Purpose, as it were, to Make a Marish, and the Ground thereabouts is so Continued a Level and Plain, that it can't well be otherwise; and for the Conveniency and Advantages of Water, One may Say, there is not perhaps such another Inland Situation of a Town, as That of *MONS* is, in *Europe*, if it ben't That of *Ghent*. As for what Inconveniencies may Arise there, from the Superabundance of these Waters, they are Wisely Provided against, as much as may be, by the Industry and Care of the Inhabitants, who, by the Multiplying of Canals and Ditches, by the Keeping Clean and Neat their Channels, by the Variety of Ponds and Little Lakes, but especially by the Number and Good Government of Sluces, have them so under Command, that they can Let 'em out, or Keep 'em in, or Make of 'em what they Please : And consequently, by such Means, in the Case of a Siege, the People within *MONS* can egregiously Incommode an Enemy without, by Inounding the Whole Country that's immediately about the Town; which they Do effectually, to the Distance of a Quarter of a League from the Walls, of Half a League, and of Three Quarters in some Places; so as to Make the Inundation Reign around, for a Good Way off, and with such a Deepness of Water, as to Render the Town Inaccessible, except on the East Side towards *Namur*, where the Ground Rises too High for it, and where an Enemy might Encamp, and Entrench, and from thence Approach, and Batter the Place,

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in Spite of the Inundation; the Same might be Done on the West Side towards *Valenciennes*, where there is likewise a Little Rising; but not so Well, because the Ground there does not Rise to such a Height.

THIS Town was at first Founded by *Alberon*, a Prince of *France*, Son to *Clodion* the Hairy, King of *France*, and Grandson to *Pharamond* the Great, First King thereof; who, in the Year of Our Lord 449. being Left, by his Father's Death, to the Guardianship of his Kinsman *Merovee*, and his Guardian having Depriv'd him of his Inheritance, and Usurp'd his Crown to himself, Went thereupon into *Germany*, to Sollicite Assistance to Recover his Right, and was Assisted by the *Germans* so Powerfully, as that, in Progress of Time, he Recovered all the Lower *Austrasia*, and a Good Part of *Belgium*, as far as *Tournay* and *Cambray*; and, ith' Year 481. he Came hither into that Country, where Now *MONS* is, which was then all Covered with Wood as well as with Water, being a Part of the *Salvus Carbonarius*, which was a Skirt of the Forrest of *Ardenna*, and Built a High Tower there, on the Top of a Small Eminence, upon the Bank of the River *Tronille*, towards the East, hard by the Water-Side, just where it, Running from the South, Makes a Turn from the North to the West, in the Middle of a Large Plain, Covered then with a Great Deal both of Wood and Water, tho' Now with the Last more than with the First, on the Bank of the River *Haine*, towards the South, not far from the Water-Side, just where it Runs from East to West, towards the North: Which Tower Serv'd him, as a House, or Palace, where he Lodg'd; as an Observatory, or Watching Place, from whence he Discovered the Country about; and as a Fortrefs, or Place of Security, by the Means of which he Maintain'd himself there, notwithstanding the Efforts of his Enemies, the *Merovignians*, to Turn him out. He likewise Cut down all the Trees, which Covered the Eminence where the Tower Stood, and by such Means Discover'd it all Around, so as to Make an Explanade, or Em-
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pty Space, immediately about the Tower, ith' Middle of the Wood, that Reign'd, from the Top, where the Tower was, to the Bottom, where 'twas Bordered with Trees, all about the Eminence: And this Explanade Serv'd him, as a Camp-Post, or Place of Arms, where he was Wont to Rendevous his Soldiers, and to Draw them up in Order of Battle.

The same Prince *Alberon* Continuing, so long as he Liv'd, to have Sharp War with the *Merovignians*, upon the Account of the Usurpation of his Dominions, and consequently, having Frequent Occasion to have his Troops Lodg'd nigh to him, first Pitch'd Tents for 'em in the Explanade about his Tower, then Built Hutts and Houses, which, by Degrees and through Time, Grew out into a Considerable Village all around the Tower, under the Defence of which 'twas Secure; and afterwards, to Secure it further from the Sudden Attempts of his Enemies, he Enclos'd it with a Hedg, of Bushes and Branches Join'd and Interlac'd, which from a Village Made it become a Town. This was Done, in the Year of our Lord 490. and 'tis the First Enclosure of *MONS*: The Town was Call'd, *Alberon's* Camp-Post, which Name it Retain'd for a Long Time after; and the Tower, *Alberon's* Tower, which Name it Retains to this Day.

What Sort of Town this Camp-Post of Prince *Alberon's* has been, we can't well Tell; for Now there's no Vestiges on'r to be Found: But I have Seen a Plan on't, in Miniature, in an Old *Latin* Manuscript, Preserv'd by the Ladies of *St. Waltrud's* at *MONS*, and to be Read in their Library, by which it Appears; That it has been of a Round Figure, Lying on the East Side the *Trouille*, hard by the River-Side, where it, Running from the South to the North, Makes a Turn away to the West, and on the South-Side the *Haine*, not far from the River-Side, where it Runs from East to West, towards the North, Including just the Eminence, where the Tower Stood, and Occupying just the Explanade, that Reign'd about, between the Top, where the Tower was, and the Bottom, where 'twas Enclos'd with a Hedg, and no more. As for *Alberon's* Tower, we can Give:

Give some Account on't, it being still on Foot and Entire, tho' by this Time Beginning to Look pretty Ancient, and Engag'd with another Edifice that was afterwards Adjoin'd to it, Standing just on the Top of that Eminence, which was once Occupy'd by *Alberon's* Camp-Post, and is Now in a Place within *MONS*, that Makes exactly the Middle of the Town, at the Distance of near Five Hundred Paces from the Side of the *Trouille*, towards the East, and about Two Thousand and Five Hundred Paces from the *Haine-Side*, towards the South: 'Tis a Tower Round, having in Diameter Sixty Foot, Built of Hewen Stone, to the Height of a Hundred and Twenty Foot, the Wall being Five Foot Thick, Consisting of Six Stories, Adorn'd at the Bottom with a Base, and a Gate Arch'd, towards the South, Accompany'd with its Pilasters, with Borders at the Division of Stories, and Windows Round, towards all Points, Accompany'd with their Chanbranes, and at the Top with a Cornich; above which there's an Attick, Terminated in a Platform, Guarded with a Balustrade, and Surmounted with a Globe, of Timber Covered with Lead, Bearing up a Flag-Staff and Flag, having Blazon'd the Arms of the Sovereign: The Whole a Piece of *Gothick* Work, Engag'd with another Edifice Adjoin'd afterwards to it, that because of its Age, and its being Seated upon a Height, where 'tis Expos'd a great deal to the Injuries of Weather as well as of Time, has Now at this Day very much the Face and Air of an Antiquity.

THIS was the Condition of *MONS*, as Prince *Alberon* of *France* Founded it: And it Continued in the same State till the Year of Our Lord 520. when, *Walbert*, Son and Successor to Prince *Alberon*, and the First Earl of *Hainault*, having Continued the War his Father had Begun against the *Merovignians*, upon the Account of the Usurpation of their Inheritance; and being Marry'd to the Lady *Lucilla*, Sister to *Zeno*, Emperour of the *East*, the Emperour thereupon Took Part with his Brother in Law, in his Quarrel against *Clovis* the Great, King of

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France,

France, whom he Forc'd to Enter into a Treaty with him, and to Restore to him the Country of *Hainault*; which was accordingly Done at *Cambray* that Year, when King *Clovis* Resign'd so much Territory to Prince *Walbert*, and the Emperour *Zeno* Erected it into an Earldom in his Favours, Giving him This for a Coat of Arms: Or, a Lion Rampant Sable, Arm'd and Langu'd Gules; for a Crest, an Earl's Coronet Or, Adorn'd with Eight Flowers of the Same. From that Time, Earl *Walbert* and his Successors, being at Peace with the *Merovignians*, and having no War with any other of their Neighbours, had but Little Occasion to Fear any Thing, and be Oblig'd to be much upon their Guard, to Live in the Midst of a Wood, and have their Troops Lodg'd always nigh to them, as their Predecessor Prince *Alberon* had Done, but they Chose rather to Dwell elsewhere, in more Convenient Places, and Neglected the Dwelling-Place of Prince *Alberon*; so that *Alberon's* Tower thereupon Became a Wast, and *Alberon's* Camp-Post Return'd to be a Desert, as it had been Formerly.

It Continued so, till the Days of the Lady *Waltrud*, otherwise, *S. Waltrud*, Countess and Heiress of *Hainault*, Daughter to Earl *Walbert* the Fourth, and Wife to *Maldegair*, otherwise, *S. Vincent*, a Prince of *Ireland*, who, by Virtue of his Marriage, was likewise Earl of *Hainault*. This Religious Princess, being Inclined to Renounce the World, and Looking out for a Convenient Retiring-Place, was Perswaded by *S. Guislain*, and Others, her Spiritual Directors, to Make Choice of the Dwelling-Place of Prince *Alberon* ith' Wood, which by that Time was Become Wast, Turn'd quite a Desert, and Covered with Trees as much as ever; where first she Built a Cell and a Chapel, for her Self, in *Alberon's* Camp-Post, hard by *Alberon's* Tower, and afterwards Founded a Church, and a Cloister, for Others, ith' same Place, in which, She Begun and Instituted, that Famous Colledg, or Congregation, of Religious Ladies, or Noble Women, Canonesses Secular, without any Rule, which Continues there, and Flourishes to this Day. *S. Waltrud*.

trud Went thither to Live, about the Year of Our Lord 603, and she Made that Institution of Ladies ith' Year 609. which Gave Occasion to a great many other People, Gentlemen as well as Ladies, Poor as well as Rich, and Laicks as well as Religious, to Resort to the same Place, and Build Houses for themselves there, in *Alberon's* Camp-Post, under the Shadow of *Alberon's* Tower, and ith' Neighbourhood of *S. Waltrud's* Church; so that *Alberon's* Camp-Post, by Degrees, Came again to be very well Inhabited, and, through Time, Grew out into a Considerable Town, being Enclos'd with a New Hedg of Bushes and Branches Rebuilt, Including the Eminence, and Occupying the Explanade all Around, between the Tower, which Defended it at the Top, and the Hedg which Enclos'd it at the Bottom, as it was Before. And they Chang'd the Name of, *Alberon's* Camp-Post, and Called it by That of, *BERGEN*, Signifying in *Teatonick*, or Old High *Dutch*, the Ancient Language of that Country, as much as if One would Say, by Way of Distinction, *The Hill*: Which Name they Design'dly Gave it, both because it was Built upon a Little Hill, the Only Hill in the Country thereabouts, and because of the Respect and Veneration, they had for the Dwelling-Place, of so many Religious Persons, as Liv'd there a Pious and Devot Life; which Respect they Thought they Express'd a Little, by Calling it with a Distinction, *The Hill*. At the same Rate of Speaking, and for the same Reasons, in *Latin* it was Called, *MONS*: And both these Names it Retains to this Day; the One, *MONS*, is Us'd commonly by Foreigners, the Other, *BERGEN*, is only Known among the Natives.

What Sort of Town this *Hill* of *S. Waltrud's* has been, we can't at all Tell; because Now there's no Vestiges on't to be Found; and as for Plans on't I have never Seen any. However, we may Presume; That, being Built upon the same Ground with Prince *Alberon's* Camp-Post, it has been much of the same Figure, and Situate the same Way, has Included the same Eminence, and Occupy'd the same Explanade, that

Reign'd about, between the Top, where *Alberon's* Tower was, and the Bottom, where 'twas Enclos'd with a New Hedg, as Before.

THIS was the Condition of *MONS*, as *S. Waltrud*, and her Ladies, and their Followers, Refounded it. It Continued in the same State, till the Year of Our Lord 680. in the Days of *Alberick*, Earl of *Hainault*, Son to Earl *Brundolph*, a Prince of a Publick Spirit, and a Great Lover of Building, who Did a great deal of that Kind for *MONS*, and Made it indeed Look Like a Town.

First, because 'twas the Place, where his Predecessor *S. Waltrud*, and several other Saints, had Liv'd, out of the Respect and Veneration he had to their Name and Memory, he Lov'd mightily to Dwell in it; and, because he Found, that the Lodgings in Prince *Alberon's* Tower, were both too Little for him, and Become Ruinous, he not only Repair'd them, but also Built a Castle of his Own, a Great and Noble Edifice, upon the Top of the same Eminence, where *Alberon's* Tower Stood, and Adjoining to it on the South Side, the Tower being Engag'd with it on the North: Which Castle and Tower together, Made such a Large and Capacious Dwelling-Place for him, that it Serv'd him Conveniently, as a House, where he Lodg'd; as an Observatory, from whence he Discovered the Country about; and as a Fortress, by the Means of which, he not only Maintain'd Himself, but likewise Defended the Town, and, upon an Occasion, could Command the Same. He also Cut down all the Wood, which Covered the Ground, both within and without the Town, especially without, and by such Means Discover'd it all Around, so as to Make a Grand Explanade, immediately without the Enclosure, that Reign'd for a Great Way off, all about the Town: And this Explanade Serv'd him as a Large Camp-Post, where he Rendevous'd his Troops, when he had Occasion, and Drew them up in Order of Battle.

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Then, for the further Defence of the Town, which, till his Time, had never had any Better Enclosure than Hedges, he was the First who Conceiv'd the Design of Enclosing it with a Wall, and Took Care to have his Design put in Execution: In Order to which, he Cut down the Hedg-Enclosure, that had been Begun by Prince *Alberon*, and Continued by his Successors till then, Extended the *Pomærium*, or Explanade, on't, a Good Way beyon'd it, further into the Country, and there Built Another of his Own, being a Wall of Stone, Making it Go quite Round the Town, with a Larger Compass; So as to Take in, not only the Eminence, upon which the Town Stood, with the Castle and Tower at the Top, but likewise a Good Deal of more Ground at the Bottom on't, which he Design'd should Serve as an Empty Space, for the Inhabitants to Build Houses further upon. This was Done, in the Year of Our Lord 687. and 'tis the Second Enclosure of *MONS*, which Made it indeed Look Like a Town; whereas, till that Time, having never any Thing but a Hedg about it, it Look'd no Better than Like a Village: Of which, and of all the other Publick Works of Earl *Alberick's* about *MONS*, an Account may be Gather'd from the Inscriptions, that are to be Seen in and about his Castle; it being still on Foot and Entire, whereas of his Wall there's not the Least Vestige to be Found, it having been so compleatly Overthrown and Ruin'd, that One can't Know Now where it has been; but the Ancient History of *MONS* is to be Read more at Large, in a Book Entitul'd, *The Annals of Hainault*, a *Walloon* Manuscript, Written in the Year 1360. by *Jacques de Guyse*, a Native of *MONS*, and a Licentiat in Divinity, of the Order of *S. Francis*, Preserv'd by the Ladies of *S. Waltrud's* there, and to be Seen in their Library, by any One that Calls for't.

What Kind of Enclosure this Wall of Earl *Alberick's* has been, we can't well Tell; for Now there's no Vestiges on't to be Found: But I have Seen a Profile on't, in Oil, in a Prospect of Old *MONS*, Hanging in the Closet of the Lady *Marga-*

ret of Croy, a Princess of the Family of *Rœulx*, and One of the Ladies of *S. Waltrud's* there, by which it Appears; That it has been Built of Hewn Stone, in the *Roman* Fashion, and Fortify'd with Square Towers, at Equal Distances, and a Third Part Higher, having Three Gates, but no Ditch, and that it has Run about the Town in an Oblong Figure, Stretching it Self from East to West, so as to Approach nearer to the *Trouille*-Side, the River Running from South to North, and to Take in the Eminence, upon which the Town Stood, with a Good Deal more. As for Earl *Alberick's* Castle, we can Give some Account on't, it being on Foot and Entire to this Day, tho' Beginning Now to Look pretty Ancient, Standing on the same Eminence with Prince *Alberon's* Tower, where they together Occupy all the Top on't, the Tower being Engag'd with the Castle on the North Side, and the Castle Adjoin'd to the Tower on the South, the Eminence Stretching it self East and West: 'Tis Four Pavilions Round, Join'd together with Four Sides Oblong, Making up a Court Square, the Root of the Interiour Square being Eighty Foot, That of the Exteriour a Hundred and Sixty, Built of Hewn Stone, the Sides to the Breadth of Forty Foot, the Pavilions to the Solidity of Sixty, and both to a Height Equal to their Respective Breadth and Solidity, the Walls to the Thickness of Five Foot, and to a Height Different as the Parts of the Edifice Require, the Sides Consisting of Two Stories, the Pavilions of Three, Adorn'd, without and within, with a Base Continued at the Bottom, and a Gate Arch'd, on the South Side, Accompany'd with its Pilasters, with Borders likewise Continued at the Division of Stories, and Windows Corner'd, on all Sides, Accompany'd with their Chanbranes, and with a Cornich at the Top Discontinued, the Parts of the Edifice Differing in Height; above which there's an Attick, Terminated in a Platform, Guarded with a Balustrade, all Discontinued, and Surmounted, the Sides with a Roof Pavilion-Wise, of Timber Cover'd with Lead, the Pavilions with a Dome and Cupolo, Bearing up a Fane-Staff

and Fane ; and as *Alberon's* Round Tower is on the North Side, Engag'd ith' Body of the Edifice, so Corresponding to it on the South Side, just over the Gate, there's Another Tower Square, the Root of the Square being Sixty Foot, Built, as the Rest of the Edifice, to the Height of a Hundred and Twenty Foot, Consisting of Six Stories, Adorn'd at the Bottom with a Base, and a Portail Arch'd, Accompany'd with its Pilasters, with Borders at the Division of Stories, and Windows Corner'd, Accompany'd with their Chanbranes, and with a Cornich at the Top, having above it an Attick, Terminated in a Platform, Guarded with a Balustrade, and Surmounted with a Spire, of Timber Covered with Lead, Bearing up a Flag-Staff and Flag, having Blazon'd the Arms of the Sovereign : The Whole a Mals of *Gothick* Work, Adjoin'd to *Alberon's* Tower, that because of its Situation, as well as of its Age, upon the Top of a Rising Ground, or Height, where consequently 'tis Expos'd very much to the Injuries both of Time and Weather, Begins Now at this Day to Look Like an Antiquity ; and as by reason of its being Seated upon an Eminence, the Only Eminence ith' Country thereabouts, 'tis Seen a Great Way off all Around, by Those who Come towards the Town, so the Best Prospect that One can have of *MONS*, and of the Ground about it, is from the Platforms of the Castle within it, especially from Those of the Two Towers, and particularly That of *Alberon's*, which Stands just upon the Top of the Eminence, on the Very Highest Spot of it all, and where the Curious Traveller should not Neglect to Go up to the Platform on't, because from Thence he can Discover, and View all at Once, the Town, its Situation and Fortification, the Ground, its Rising and Falling, the Waters, their Course and Quantity, the Rivers, Canals, Lakes, the Marishes, and all that is on't.

THIS was the Condition of *MONS*, as 'twas Built by Earl *Alberick* : And it Continued so, in the same State, without

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any further Alteration, or Change, either for its Increase, or for its Better Defence, till a Long Time after.

In the Year of Our Lord 812. ith' Days of the Lady *Renny*, Countess and Heiress of *Hainault*, Daughter to Earl *Walter* the Third, and Wife to *Albo*, a Prince of *Lorrain*, who, by his Marriage, was likewise Earl of *Hainault*, *Charles* the Great, King of *France*, and Emperor of the *West*, had so much Good Will for *MONS*, partly for the Sake of Earl *Walter* the Third, who was Kill'd in his Service against the *Saxons*, ith' Year 800. but principally upon the Account it had been the Dwelling-Place of *S. Waltrud*, and several other Great Saints, that, as a Mark of the Respect and Veneration he had for the Name and Memory of those Worthies, he not only Declar'd it a Noble Town, and Gave it all the Privileges of a Free City, but besides, Made it the Capital of all *Hainault*, and, what was more, Erected it, and the Territory about it, into a Particular Earldom by it Self, Distinct from the Earldom of *Hainault*, in Favours of the Countess *Renny*, and of Earl *Albo*, to whom he had before hand Marry'd her, Giving it This for a Coat of Arms: *Argent*, a Castle Triple Tower'd *Gules*; for a Crest, an Earl's Coronet *Or*, Adorn'd with Eight Flowers of the Same. From that Time, the Earls of *Hainault* were likewise Earls of *MONS*, and Us'd both Titles together, Quartering the Armorial Ensigns of both Earldoms, so as to Make up a Scutcheon in this Manner: Quarterly; in the First and Fourth *Or*, a Lion Rampant *Sable*, Arm'd and Langu'd *Gules*, for *Hainault*; ith' Second and Third *Argent*, a Castle Triple Tower'd *Gules*, for *MONS*; for a Crest, an Earl's Coronet *Or*, Adorn'd with Eight Flowers of the Same. And it Continued to be so till the Days of Earl *John*.

Rainier the First, Earl of *Hainault* and *MONS*, Cousin to Earl *Manassy*, having Sharp War in his Time with *Otho* the Great, Emperor of *Germany*, and *Bruno*, Arch Bishop of *Cologn*, Two Brothers, in the Year of Our Lord 959. Went out to Meet the Arch-Bishop, who, ith' Emperor's Name, was Come
against

againſt him with a Great Army into *Hainault*, and Met him near *Valenciennes*, where they Fought; but the Arch-Biſhop, being much Superiour to him, in Quality as well as in Number of Troops, not only Deſeated his Army, but likewise Took himſelf Priſoner, and Carry'd him in Chains to *Cologne*, where he Kept him till he Dy'd: He alſo, the ſame Year, Took Poſſeſſion of both the Earldoms of *Hainault* and *MONS* for the Emperor, and Diſpoſ'd of 'em by his Authority, by Giving them to Governours, who Held them in his Name; Excluding both Earl *Rainier*, whom he Kept Priſoner, and his Children, whom he Banish'd the Country. In this Manner, the Town of *MONS*, and the Territory about it, Came into the Hands of the Emperor *Otho*, and his Governours; and it Continued to be ſo for the Space of Nineteen Years, that is, till the Year 978. when *Rainier* the Second, Son and Succeſſor to the Other, after having Made many Efforts, during the Time of his Banishment, to Revenge his Father's Quarrel, and Recover his own Inheritance, and all to no Purpoſe, being then a Refugee at the Court of *France*, and Marry'd there to a French Princeſs, the Lady *Havidea*, Daughter to *Hugh Capet*, Earl of *Paris*, and a Peace being, that Year, Concluded between *Otho* the Second, Emperor of *Germany*, and *Lothair*, King of *France*, by an Article of that Treaty, 'twas Provided for his Reſtoration; ſo, by Means of his Foreign Alliance, he at length Recovered his Own Country, after having been Banish'd it Nineteen Years.

In the Year of Our Lord 1113. ith' Days of *Baldwin* the Second, Earl of *Hainault* and *MONS*, Earl *Baldwin* the Firſt's Son, a Terrible Fire Broke out in *MONS*, which Reduc'd almoſt the Whole Town to Aſhes. It lay in Ruins till the Year 1145. that *Baldwin* the Third, Son and Succeſſor to the Former, Begun to Rebuild it, and Continued to Do ſo, as long as he Liv'd, that is, till the Year 1171, but having Sharp and Violent War in his Time with *Thierry* of *Alſace*, Earl of *Flanders*, upon the Account of the Succeſſion to that

Earldom, by reason of his Affairs Abroad, his Buildings at Home did not Advance, and were not Perfected in his Life-Time; except the Wall about *MONS*, which, for the Security of his House and Family, as well as for the Defence of the Town and Burghers, he Took Care to have Advanc'd, and Perfected very Quickly, so that, in a Short Time, it Came to be in as Good a Case as Before.

What Kind of Enclosure this Wall of Earl *Baldwin* the Third's has been, we can't at all Tell, there being Now no Vestiges on't to be Found; and as for Plans or Profiles on't I have never Seen any: However, we may Presume, That, being Built upon the same Bounds, and on the same Foundation, with the Former, it has likewise been ith' same Fashion, of the same Figure, and the Same every other Way.

THIS was the Condition of *MONS*, as 'twas Rebuilt by Earl *Baldwin* the Third: And it Continued in that State, only till the Year of Our Lord 1186. for then, *Baldwin* the Fourth, Surnamed the Builder, because of the Great Inclination he had that Way, Son and Successor to the Other, a Publick Spirited Prince, who Alone Did more for *MONS* than all Those who were before him, having Perfected the Buildings his Father had Begun, and Added a great many other Edifices of his Own, So as to Take up all the Ground that was Included within the Town, and be Oblig'd to Go without, if he had a Mind to Build any More, Fell thereupon into a Dislike of the Enclosure, as being of too Narrow Bounds, Conceiv'd the Design of Another, Larger, and immediately Put his Design in Execution, Throwing Down the Wall that had been Built by Earl *Alberick*, and lately Rebuilt by his Father, Extending the *Pomærium* on't a Good Way beyond it, further into the Country, and there Building Another of his Own, likewise of Stone, together with a Ditch, Making both Go quite Round, with a Greater Circumference, so as to Take in, not only the Town, but a Good Deal of Ground more, which he Design'd should Serve as an Empty Space, for himself and his Successors, as well
as.

as for the Inhabitants, to Build further upon : This was Done that same Year ; and 'tis the Third Enclosure of *MONS*, which did indeed Render it a great Deal Larger than What it was formerly, as 'twas in this Prince's Time, that the Town Arriv'd, at a Pitch of Splendour and Magnificence, beyond, What it had ever been at before. Of which, and of all the other Publick Works of Earl *Baldwin* the Builder's about *MONS*, an Account may be Gather'd from the Inscriptions, that are to be Seen in and about the Town-House, and the other Edifices which he Built there, being most of 'em still on Foot and Entire, tho' of his Wall and Ditch there's not the Least Vestige to be Found, they having been so Compleatly Destroy'd, the One Fill'd up, the Other Pull'd Down, and Both Levell'd to the Ground, so that One can't Know Now where they have been ; but the History of Earl *Baldwin* the Builder, and of his Works, is to be Read more at Large, in a Book Entitul'd, *The Annals of MONS*, a *Walloon* Manuscript, Written, in Different Times, by the Town-Clerks there, Preserv'd in the Town-House among the Archives, and to be Seen by Those who have Acquaintance enough among the Magistrates.

What Kind of Enclosure this Wall of Earl *Baldwin* the Builder's has been, we can't well Tell ; for Now there's no Vestiges on't to be Found : But I have Seen a Profile on't, in Desframpature, in a Prospect of Old *MONS*, upon the Wall of the Council-Chamber ith' Town-House there, by which it Appears ; That it has been Built of Hewn Stone, in the *Roman* Fashion, and Fortify'd with Round Towers, at Equal Distances, and a Third Part Higher, having Five Gates, with a Large Ditch, and that it has Run about the Town in an Oblong Figure, Stretching it Self from East to West, so as to Touch upon the *Trouille*-Side, the River Running from South to North, and to Take in the Town, with a Good Deal more.

THIS was the Condition of *MONS*, as 'twas Rebuilt by Earl *Baldwin* the Builder : And it Continued so, in the same

State, without any further Addition or Change, either in its Buildings or Government, for a Long Time after.

In the Year of our Lord 1252, ith' Days of the Lady *Margaret*, Countess and Heiress of *Hainault* and *MONS*, Daughter to Earl *Baldwin* of *Constantinople*, and Widow to *Burchard* Surnamed of *Avesnes*, a Nobleman of the same Country, who, by Virtue of his Marriage, had been likewise Administrator of *Hainault* and *MONS*, an Unnatural War Broke out in *Hainault*, between the Countess *Margaret*, and her own Son, Prince *John* of *Avesnes*, who, immediately upon his Father the Administrator's Death, would not Wait the Succession, till his Mother the Heiress Dy'd also, but Conceiv'd the Design of Turning her out, and, by the Assistance of *William* the Second, Earl of *Holland*, and King of the *Romans*, whose Sister, the Lady *Alice*, he had Marry'd, and who, for that Reason, was a Stout Friend to the Son, and a Bitter Enemy to the Mother, did almost Put his Design in Execution; for partly by King *William's* Assistance, and partly by the Means of a Strong Party which he Made among the Nobility of *Hainault*, he very soon Possess'd himself of *MONS*, and of Most of the Other Towns in that Province, Meaning no less than to Take the Whole, and Drive his Mother quite out on't, as in Effect he did at length, and Oblig'd her to Retire into *France*: But ith' Year 1254. the Countess *Margaret*, being Assisted with Troops by *Lewis* the Ninth, otherwise, *S. Lewis*, King of *France*, Return'd into *Hainault*, where she Recover'd *MONS*, and the Other Towns, and Reduc'd the Whole Province to her Obedience; upon which, her Son, not having the Patience to Wait the Succession till her Death, Broke his Heart, and Dy'd, ith' Year 1255. after having Shown himself to be a Son Unworthy to have Liv'd so Long, by his having so Unworthily Treated a Lady, who was both his Own Mother, and his Father's Widow, and whose Dominions he was to have all, without Dispute, immediately upon her Demise, which Happen'd ith' Year 1280.

John,

John, Surnamed, of *Avesnes*, Earl of *Hainault* and *MONS*; Prince *John* of *Avesnes*'s Son, in the Year of Our Lord 1299. by the Right of his Mother, the Lady *Alice* of *Holland*, Earl *William* the Second, otherwise, King *William*'s, Sister, Succeeded likewise in the Earldoms of *Holland* and *Zealand*; by which Means, Four Earldoms Came then to be Join'd in the Person of this Earl, who thereupon Chang'd the Scutcheon of the Earls of *Hainault*, by Putting out the Arms of *MONS*, and Putting in Those of *Holland* in their Room, Quartering the Original Scutcheons of *Hainault* and *Holland*, so as to Make up a Coat of Arms in this Manner: Quarterly; in the First and Fourth Or, a Lion Rampant Sable, Arm'd and Langu'd Gules, for *Hainault*; ith' Second and Third Or, a Lion Rampant Gules, for *Holland*; for a Crest, an Earl's Coronet Or, Adorn'd with Eight Flowers of the Same. And it Continues to be so to this Day. He also Neglected, among his Titles, to Use That of Earl of *MONS*; so from that Time it Went into Desuetude.

In the Year of Our Lord 1339. ith' Days of *William* the Second, Earl of *Hainault* and *Holland*, Son to Earl *William* the Good, *Edward* the Third, King of *England*, being Constituted by *Lewis* of *Bavaria*, Emperour of *Germany*, Great Vicar of the Holy Empire, and having Occasion to Go from *England* into *Germany*, about the Affairs that Belong'd to his Charge, Pass'd the Way of *MONS*, and Stayed Two Days in the Town, where he was Splendidly and Magnificently Receiv'd and Entertain'd, by Earl *William* and his Nobility.

In the Year of Our Lord 1424. ith' Days of the Lady *Jaquelin*, Countess and Heiress of *Hainault* and *Holland*, Daughter to Earl *William* of *Bavaria*, and Wife to *John* Duke of *Brabant*, who, by his Marriage, was likewise Administrator of *Hainault* and *Holland*, a Terrible War Broke out in *Hainault*, upon the Following Occasion. The Countess *Jaquelin* was Lawfully Marry'd to Duke *John* of *Brabant*, as we have Said, but afterwards Dislik'd him, and, he being still Alive, Marry'd again Adulterously to *Humphry* Duke of *Glocester*, King *Henry* the

the Fifth of *England's* Brother; upon which Duke *John* the Administrator, being Assisted by *Philip* the Good, Duke of *Burgundy*, Came into *Hainault*, in the Year 1424. and, either by Force of Arms, or a Voluntary Submission, Reduc'd into his Power, all the Towns ith' Province, except *MONS*, in a very Short Time. The Next Year 1425. the Two Dukes, *John* and *Philip*, Came together before *MONS*, Besieg'd it, and Took it upon Terms. It Continued in the Hands of the *Brabancons*, so long as Duke *John* the Administrator Liv'd, that is, till the Year 1426. when Duke *Philip*, as Next Heir to the Countess *Jaquelin*, who was Banish'd the Country, Succeeded in the Administratorship of *Hainault*, and the *Burgundians* Took Possession of *MONS*, and Kept it, till at length, ith' Year 1436. the Countess *Jaquelin* Dyed, and Duke *Philip* then Succeeded to her as Heir General.

About this Prince's Time, that is, after the Year of Our Lord 1436. a great many Foreigners, especially *Dutch* and *Burgundians*, Came Thrönging thither to *MONS*, and Made the Town Increase so much in the Number, both of its Inhabitants and Houses, that there was not Room enough for 'em within Earl *Baldwin* the Builder's Wall; for all the Ground Included with it was entirely Taken up: So that, afterwards, they were Oblig'd to Begin to Build without the Ditch, along the Sides of the High Ways that Run out from the Gates; which Buildings, at length, Grew out into Suburbs, having Each of 'em the same Name with the Gate they Run out from.

Duke *Philip*, having first had *MONS* as Administrator for Another, and afterwards Got it in Sovereignty to Himself, being at Sharp and Violent War, in his Time, with *Charles* the Seventh, King of *France*, upon the Account of the Death of his Father, who was Kill'd upon the Bridg at *Montreau*, in *Champagne*, by the *French* King's Order, and Considering the Importance of the Town of *MONS*, being a Frontier to him on the Side towards *France*, how Weakly 'twas Fortify'd, having Nothing but Earl *Baldwin* the Builder's Wall and Ditch to De-
fend

send it, and that Then, after the Invention of Powder and Guns, Towns Wanted to be Fortify'd at a Better Rate than ever they had been before, was thereupon the First who Conceiv'd the Design of Throwing up a Rampart about it; and because the Town, by reason of its Excrescence into Suburbs, that was likewise Grown Considerable, Requir'd a New Enclosure, he Design'd also, that the Rampart should Enclose, and Go quite Round it, with such a Large Compass, by the Outter Ends of all the Suburbs, as to Take in Town, Suburbs, River, and all that was on't: Which Design he Begun to Put in Execution, in the Year of Our Lord 1460. when, in Order to it, he first Destroy'd Earl *Baldwin's* Enclosure, by Throwing down the Wall, Filling up the Ditch, and Levelling both to the Ground; then Extended the *Pomarium* of the Town, into the Country, beyond the Far-Ends of all the Suburbs, and the River, and there Built an Enclosure of his Own, by Cutting out a Ditch, Throwing up a Rampart, and Making both Go clear Round, with such a Large Circumference, as to Surround and Shut up All: 'Twas Compleated ith' Year 1467. the Last Year of Duke *Philip's* Life; and 'tis the Fourth and Last Enclosure of *MONS*, which, among all Those that the Town has had, is the only One that Continues on Foot and Entire to this Day; and tho' it be Now above Two Hundred Years Old, yet 'tis all that *MONS* has about it.

What Kind of Enclosure this Rampart of Duke *Philip* the Good's is, we can very well Tell; for 'tis still on Foot and Entire; and I have Seen and Observ'd it very Exactly. 'Tis not a Simple Wall of Stone, as the other Enclosures were, but a Thick Rampart of Earth; Built in the Ancient Fashion, not after the Modern; altogether Irregular, not according to Art; and Fortify'd with Towers and Bulwarks Intermix'd, not Bastions: Being a Confus'd Mass of *Roman* and *Gothick* Work together, that Discovers by its Mixture, the Age 'twas Done in as well as the Hands who Did it. 'Tis Hard to Tell its Dimensions, because of its Irregularity; for we could not Take 'em
other.

otherwise than Measuring them by Common Paces, which we Did, Walking it on Foot, both within and without the Town: So according to What we Found, I shall Endeavour to Give a Description on't, as Full and Exact as is Possible; and to Begin with its Plan.

'Tis Built in Form of a Polygon, or Figure having many Sides, of an Oblong Round, or Parabolick, Kind; Consisting of Two Unequal Parts, upon the Two Sides of the *Trouille*, of Several Irregular Sides, on both Sides the River, and having Seven Gates in it, Two Sluces, and a great many Towers and Bulwarks Intermix'd, at Unequal and Irregular Distances.

The Great Semi-Diameter of the Interiour Polygon, is just a Thousand Common Paces, that is, Five Hundred Geometrical Paces, or a Third Part of a *British* Mile; which Doubled, Makes the Length of the Ground within this Polygon, Two Thousand Common Paces, or a Thousand Geometrical Paces, or Two Thirds of a *British* Mile: The Great Semi-Diameter of the Exteriour Polygon, is a Thousand and Forty Two Common Paces, that is, Five Hundred and Twenty One Geometrical Paces, or Some more than a Third of a *British* Mile; which Doubled, Makes the Length of the Ground within this Polygon, or the Greatest Length of the Place, Take it which Way you Will, Two Thousand and Eighty Four Common Paces, or a Thousand and Forty Two Geometrical Paces, or Some more than Two Thirds of a *British* Mile. The Little Semi-Diameter of the Interiour Polygon, is just Seven Hundred and Fifty Common Paces, that is, Three Hundred and Seventy Five Geometrical Paces, or a Quarter of a *British* Mile; which Doubled, Makes the Breadth of the Ground within this Polygon, Fifteen Hundred Common Paces, or Seven Hundred and Fifty Geometrical Paces, or Half a *British* Mile: The Little Semi-Diameter of the Exteriour Polygon, is Seven Hundred and Ninety Two Common Paces, that is, Three Hundred and Ninety Six Geometrical Paces, or Some more than a Quarter of a *British* Mile; which Doubled, Makes the Breadth of the Ground

Ground within this Polygon, or the Greatest Breadth of the Place, Take it which Way you Will, Fifteen Hundred and Eighty Four Common Paces, or Seven Hundred and Ninety Two Geometrical Paces, or Some more than Half a *British* Mile.

The Sides of both the Polygons being of an Unequal Length, and the Towers and Bulwarks of an Irregular Situation, at Unequal and Irregular Distances, we could not well Take the Dimensions of 'em all Separately, but Jointly all together, we Found, the Circumference of the Interiour Polygon, to be just Six Thousand Common Paces, that is, Three Thousand Geometrical Paces, or Two *British* Miles; and the Circumference of the Exteriour Polygon, Six Thousand Two Hundred and Fifty Two Common Paces, or Three Thousand a Hundred and Twenty Six Geometrical Paces, or Some more than Two *British* Miles: But the Circumference, Measuring it upon the Top of the Rampart, Going along the Corridor, or Gallery, and around the Platforms, or Terrasses, of the Towers and Bulwarks, by the Foot of the Battlement, or Breast-Work, and Reckoning all the Sides and Angles, or Turnings in and out, of the Rampart, Towers, and Bulwarks, or the Greatest Circumference of the Place, Take it which Way you Will, is exactly Seven Thousand Two Hundred and Forty Common Paces, that is, Three Thousand Six Hundred and Twenty Geometrical Paces, or Two *British* Miles, and Some more than a Third of a Mile.

There are Seven Gates in this Rampart: Five in that Part on't, which Surrounds the Greater Part of the Town, on the East Side the River, commonly Call'd, the *Great Town*, being by Far the Greater Part on't; and Two in that Part, which Surrounds the Lesser Part of the Town, on the West Side the River, Nam'd, the *Little Town*, being much the Lesser Part. The Gates on the East Side, in the Rampart about the Great Town, Beginning at the River, at the Downer End towards the North, from thence Going Eastwards, and so Round, are

Reckon'd in this Order, and thus Nam'd: The *Water-Gate*, the *Castle-Gate*, the *Park-Gate*, the *Nimy-Gate*, and the *Havre-Gate*. Those on the West Side, ith' Rampart about the Little Town, Beginning at the River, at the Upper End towards the South, from thence Going Westwards, Round, are Reckon'd, and Nam'd so: The *Hayon-Gate*, and the *Bartemont-Gate*. And upon the River, at each End of the Town, whereas Originally there was Nothing, but a Pannel, or Piece, of Wall, with a Little Gate in't, for the Water to Pass thorough, Built by the *Burgundians*, to Join the Rampart on the one Side, and That on the other Side together, and so to Compleat the Enclosure, in Stead of those Pannels of Wall, there are Now Two Sluces, Lately Made by the *Spaniards*, which Serve the Turn of Joining the Two Ramparts, and Compleating the Enclosure to Better Purpose; for, besides the Joining of the Ramparts, by these Sluces the People of the Town have the Command of the River-Water, so as to be Able to Let it out, or Keep it in, or Make on't What they Please, whereas by those Pannels of Wall they could Do Nothing with it.

'Tis Fortify'd all About, with Round Towers, and Bulwarks, likewise Round, Intermix'd, at Unequal and Irregular Distances; and every One of those Gates and Sluces, is so Plac'd ith' Middle between Two Towers, One on each Side on't, and so Nigh to One another, that it Stands equally Defended and Hid between 'em.

As to its Profile; the Rampart, the Gates, the Towers, the Bulwarks, and all that is on't, is Built of Earth Thrown up, Revested on the Out-Side, and Encrusted on the In-Side, with Facades of Hewen Stone: The Rampart and Gates being to the Thickness of Seventy Foot, that is, Reckoning the Mass of Earth, with the Revesture and Encrusture of Stone, and to the Height of Eight and Twenty; the Towers to the Solidity of Five and Thirty Foot, and to the Height of Two and Forty, that is, a Third Part Higher than the Rampart, after the Manner Practis'd in the Towers of the *Aurelian Wall* about Rome;

Rome; and the Bulwarks to both a Solidity and a Height Equal to Those of the Rampart, according to the Common Practice. The Rampart and Gates are Terminated with a Grand Corridor, or Gallery, being a Kind of Terra-Plain, Running along the Top on't, the Towers and Bulwarks with Grand Platforms, or Terrasses, some of which are Cover'd, and some Discover'd; and both Terra-Plain and Platforms are Guarded on the Out-Side with a Grand Battlement, or Breast-Work, being a Kind of Parapet, likewise of Earth Cast up, Revested and Encrusted with Hewn Stone, to the Thickness of One and Twenty Foot, and to the Height of Seven, Founded upon the Top of the Rampart and Gates, the Towers and Bulwarks, and Reigning along the Terra-Plain, and around the Platforms, all about the Town: By which Means, tho' the Rampart and Gates be Seventy Foot Thick, yet the Terra-Plain ith' Top of 'em Comes to be only Forty Nine Foot Broad, by reason that One and Twenty Foot, the Thickness of the Parapet, is Taken from it; and the Parapet Going round the Towers and Bulwarks, as well as along the Rampart and Gates, the Breadth of their Platforms Comes also to be Diminish'd in Proportion.

Without the Rampart is the Ditch, being a Moat, or Wet Ditch, a Hundred and Forty Foot Broad, and Twelve Foot Deep: 'Tis Cut out of the Earth, has its Scarp and Counter-Scarp Encrusted with Hewn Stone, and is always Full of Water from the River, and the other Neighbouring Waters that are Made to Run into it. Over it, before the Gates, are Seven Bridges, that is, One before each Gate, Giving Passage into and out from the Town, and having at the Outter Ends of 'em as many High Ways, that from thence Run out into the Adjacent Country, and have Each the same Name with the Gate it Runs out from: They were Originally Fix'd Bridges of Stone, Built by the *Burgundians*; but Now they are Draw Ones, of Timber, Lately Made by the *Spaniards*, that is, before each Gate, there's Now a Draw-Bridg, or rather a Concatenation of such Bridges, one beyond another, Plac'd upon Mounts, or

Pillars, Founded ith' Ditch to such a Length as to Cross it over, and to the Ordinary Breadth of Bridges.

The River *Trouille*, whether within or without the Town, is but very Small and Inconsiderable: However, 'tis Navigable for Boats, as much as is on't below *MONS*, and Bordered all along with a Quay, or Landing Place, Revested with Stone, its Channel being Encrusted with the Same. As for the Bridges that are over it, Joining the Two Parts of the Town together, the one Part on the East Side being by far the Greater, the Other on the West Side much the Lesser, there are a Great Many of 'em, One in every Street that Touches upon'r, but None of 'em Considerable, the River being but Small: They are all Fix'd Bridges of Stone, as they have always been, Built Originally by the *Burgundians*, and Rebuilt Lately by the *Spaniards*, Terminated ith' Top with a Causey, or Street, Guarded on both Sides with a Balustrade, or Rail; the Whole of Hewn Stone.

THAT was the Condition of *MONS*, as Duke *Philip* the Good Fortify'd it, and This is all the Length its Fortifications Came in his Life-Time; for, according to the Knowledge the *Burgundians* had of the Art of Military Architecture in those Days, being Surrounded with a Rampart and a Ditch, they Reckon'd it a Town Compleatly Fortify'd.

Charles the Warrior, Duke *Philip's* Son and Successor, having likewise Sharp and Violent War, in his Time, against *Lewis* the Eleventh, King of *France*, upon the Account of his Grandfather's Death, and the Knowledg of the Art of Military Architecture, being Come a Greater Length in his Days, than it was in his Father's, Considered further of Fortifying *MONS*, being a Principal Frontier-Town to him on the Side towards *France*, by the Addition of Out-Works to its Strength: And, in Order to it, he first Cut down all the Wood, which Covered the Country about the Town, and by such Means Discover'd it all Around, so as to Make a Grand Explanade, immediately with-

without the Ditch, that Reign'd, for a Great Way off, all about the Place ; then he Cut out another Ditch, likewise a Moat, Making it Go quite Round, a Little without the Former, and Dispos'd of the other Waters about the Town, so as, by the Means of Canals, to Make 'em Run into the Ditches, to Fill them ; and last of all, for the Better Defence of the Rampart, on the South and West Sides the Town, being the Sides towards *France* and *Flanders*, he Erected Two Forts, being a Kind of Ravelin, upon the Ground Included between the Two Ditches, the One before the *Hayon-Gate*, towards the South, the Other before the *Bartemont-Gate*, towards the West : This was Done in the Year of our Lord 1470. and he would perhaps have Done more towards the Fortifying of *MONS*, if his Death, which Happen'd, at the Battle of *Nancy*, ith' Year 1477. had not Prevented him.

What Kind of Works these Out-Works of Duke *Charles* the Warri-er's were Then, we can't precisely Tell ; for Now they are either Taken in, and Embod'y'd with the *Spanish* and *French* Works, that have been since Made, or Levelled. However, I have seen a Draught of 'em in the Hall of the Castle at *MONS*, by which it Appears, That the Forts have been Good Large Works, Built of Earth, Revested and Encrusted with Stone, to a Solidity Double of the Thickness of the Rampart, and to a Height Equal to the Depth of the Ditches, between which they were Erected, Terminated ith' Top with Platforms, Guarded on the Out-Side with Battlements, Fortify'd with Round Turrets, and having Bridges of Stone over the Two Ditches, both before and behind 'em, the Whole being Suitable to the Rest of the Fortification ; that the Ditch has been a Moat, Half as Broad as the Other, and Whole as Deep, Going Round, sometimes at a Greater, and sometimes at a Lesser Distance ; and that the Wood has been Discovered, for a Great Way off, all about the Town.

THAT

THAT was the Condition of *MONS*, as Duke *Charles* the Warriour further Fortify'd it, and This is the Length its Fortifications Came in his Life-Time; when, according to the Rate of Reckoning the Strength of Towns in those Days, 'twas indeed Become pretty Strong; being Enclos'd with a Rampart, Fortify'd with Towers and Bulwarks, further Fortify'd with some Outworks, and Surrounded with a Double Ditch: All which did indeed Make it Strong, at that Time; tho' Now 'twould Signify Nothing.

However, it Continued so, in the same State, without any further Alteration or Change Befalling it, either in its Edifices or Government, till the Days of *Philip* the Second, King of *Spain*, Duke of *Burgundy*, and Earl of *Hainault*, Son to the Emperor *Charles* the Fifth. This Prince had No War, in his Time, with the *French*, but Cruel and Bloody War with the *Dutch*, the States General of the United Provinces, who Naturally were his Subjects, but had Made a General Defection from him, because of his Tyranny and Oppression towards them, upon the Account of their Differing in Religion from him, they being Protestants, and he a Papist, and Establish'd a Republick of their Own, which was Headed by *William* the First, Prince of *Orange*, and *Lewis* Earl of *Nassau*, his Brother, who, in the Year of Our Lord 1572. being Assisted with the Protestants of *France*, Came into *Hainault*, Drew near to *MONS* ith' Night-Time, and Took it by a Stratagem. But it was Retaken by Force, the Same Year, by *Don Ferdinand*, Duke of *Alva*, Governour for King *Philip* ith' Low Countries, and *Don Frederick* of *Toledo*, his Son, who Besieg'd it Closely, for Two Months, and then Forc'd it to Surrender upon Terms.

King *Philip* having Recover'd it into his Hands, and the Bloody War, betwixt him and the States General, Becoming more Violent, Considering the Weakness of the Rampart about it, by reason of the Slenderiness of its Fortification, and the *Spaniards* being Come a Greater Length, in the Knowledge of the Art of Military Architecture, than the *Burgundians* ever were,

were, Resolv'd to Provide for the Further Security of the Town, by Amending the Defects in its Strength. So accordingly, in the Year of Our Lord 1576. for the better Defence of the Rampart, he Fell a Fortifying it with Bastions, such as the *Spaniards*, in his Time, could Construct; and Begun on the East Side, at the Gate of *Nimy*, where the Ground being a Rising Ground, or Hill, he Thought it was most Attackable, from thence Going Southwards, Round: But he only Perfect-ed Two of 'em, during all the Rest of his Life-Time; the One at the Saillant Angle, on the Right of the Gate of *Nimy*, towards the East; the Other, at the Saillant Angle, ith' Middle of the Distance, between That and the Gate of *Havre*, towards the South-East.

What Kind of Works these Bastions of King *Philip* the Second's were, we can very well Tell; they being still on Foot and Entire, and Free from any other Edifice: They are Bastions Flat, not Royal; Built of Earth, Revested with Stone, to a Solidity Triple of the Thickness of the Rampart, and to a Height Equal to That of the Same; Terminated ith' Top with Platforms, or Terrasses, Guarded on the Out Side with Parapets, or Battlements, and Banquets, or Foot-Steps, Suitable to the Rest of the Fortification.

THAT was the Condition of *MONS*, as King *Philip* the Second Amended it, and This is all the Length its Fortifications Came in his Time: He would perhaps have Done more towards the Strengthening of the Town, if the Cruel and Bloody Religious War, which Happen'd in his Reign, had not Hinder'd him.

Albert Arch-Duke of *Austria*, King *Philip* the Second's Son in Law, by Marrying his Daughter *Donna Isabella*, and Successor in the Dominion of the Low Countries, tho he had Little or No War, during his Government, with the *Dutch*, or any Other of his Neighbours, yet Continued the Design his Father had Begun of Amending the Defects in the Strength of *MONS*,
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and Fortifying the Rampart with Bastions ; and accordingly, in the Year of Our Lord 1603. Added One, on the South-West Side, near the Gate of *Bartemont*, where there being likewise a Little Rising Ground, he Thought it was somewhat Attackable : 'Tis at the Saillant Angle, on the Left of the Gate of *Bartemont*, towards the South-West.

What Kind of Work this Bastion of Arch-Duke *Albert's* was, we can likewise very well Tell ; it being still on Foot and Entire : 'Tis of the same Figure, has the same Dimensions, and is every way the Same, with the other Two, that are already Describ'd.

THAT was the Condition of *MONS*, as Arch-Duke *Albert* further Amended it, and This is the Length its Fortifications Came in his Government. It Continued so, in the same State, without any further Addition to its Strength, till the Days of *Philip* the Fourth, King of *Spain*, and Earl of *Hainault*, King *Philip* the Third's Son ; who, having Sharp War, in his Time, with the *French*, during the Minority of *Lewis* the Fourteenth, Present King of *France*, and the *Spaniards* being Come a Greater Length, in the Knowledge of the Art of Military Architecture, than formerly, Consider'd further of Strengthening the Defence of *MONS*, by Compleating its Fortification with Out-Works : In Order to which, in the Year of Our Lord 1660. he first Enlarg'd Duke *Philip* the Good's Ditch, in such and such Places, so as to Render it Capable of the Works he Desig'n'd in it ; and then, Beginning on the East Side, at the Gate of *Nimy*, where the Ground being High, he thought the Town was most Attackable, from thence Going Southwards, Round, he Planted and Rais'd the Following Out-Works : A Large Ravelin, just before the *Nimy*-Gate, towards the East ; a Half-Moon, ith' Middle of the Distance, between King *Philip* the Second's Two Bastions, likewise towards the East ; another Half-Moon, before the *Hayon*-Gate, towards the South ; a Third Half-Moon, ith' Middle of the Distance, between That
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and Arch-Duke *Albert's* Bastion, likewise towards the South; a Fourth and Large Half-Moon, just before the *Bartemont-Gate*, towards the West; and a Horn-Work, before the *Water-Gate*, towards the North-West.

What Kind of Works these Out-Works of King *Philip* the Fourth's were, we can well enough Tell; they being still on Foot and Entire, and Free from other Edifices: They are Built of Earth, Revested and Encrusted with Stone, to a Solidity and Height in Proportion to the Rampart; Terminated with Platforms, Guarded with Parapets, and Banquets, Suitable to the Rest of the Fortification; Planted in the Ditch, at the Distance of its Ordinary Breadth from the Rampart, that is, beyond the General Ditch, which Accompanies the Rampart all Along; Surrounded with Water, that is, their Particular Ditches, which only Accompany them, and are commonly Half the Breadth of the Other, both being but One Ditch Enlarg'd, Originally Cut out by Duke *Philip* the Good; and Join'd to the Scarp, or Slope, on the In-Side, and to the Counter-Scarp, or Contrary Slope, on the Out-Side, with Draw-Bridges.

THAT was the Condition of *MONS*, as King *Philip* the Fourth Compleated it, and This is all the Length its Fortifications Came in his Reign. Perhaps he would have Done More; but his Death, which Happen'd in the Year of Our Lord 1665. Prevented him.

Charles the Second, Late King of *Spain*, King *Philip* the Fourth's Son, and Successor to the Earldom of *Hainault*, having likewise Sharp and Violent War in his Time, with the Present King *Lewis* the Fourteenth of *France*, Continued the Design his Father had Begun, of Strengthening the Defence of *MONS*, by Compleating its Fortification with Out-Works, and partly by the Means of the Knowledg that the *Spaniards* were then Come to in Military Architecture, partly by the Help of the Skill of some Stragglng *French* Pretenders to that Art, who, either by Chance, or out of Design, were Got into
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his Service, Did more of this Kind for that Town than all Those who were before him, tho' to no great Purpose.

First, ith' Year of Our Lord 1670. in Duke *Philip* the Good's Ditch, Beginning on the East Side, where the Town, because of the Rising Ground, is most Attackable, at the Gate of the *Park*, from thence Going Southwards, Round, he Added these Following Out-Works to Those that were in't before: A Half-Moon, just before the *Park-Gate*, towards the North-East; another Half-Moon, ith' Middle of the Distance, between That and King *Philip* the Fourth's Ravelin, before the *Nimy-Gate*, likewise towards the North-East; an Irregular Horn-Work, with a Small Ravelin before it, Covering King *Philip* the Second's Bastion, on the Right of the *Nimy-Gate*, towards the East; and a Third Half-Moon, ith' Middle of the Distance, between the *Havre-Gate* and the *Hayon-Gate*, towards the South. Then, he Converted the Ground, Included between Duke *Philip* the Good's Ditch and Duke *Charles* the Warriar's, into a Grand Cover'd Way, with a Glacis, or Parapet, on the Out-Side; Réigning quite Round the Town, and being Tennail'd, or Angl'd, all Along; Divided in some Places, because of its too Great Breadth, and Intercut in Others, for the Sake of a Communication of Water between the Ditches. Afterwards, without Duke *Charles* the Warriar's Ditch, for the further Fortification of the Place, he Added these Out-Works: a Small Swallow-Tail, with a Moat, or Wet Ditch, Separated at some Distance from the Other, ith' Middle of the Distance, between the *Castle-Gate* and the *Park-Gate*, towards the North-East; a Small Half-Moon, with a Moat, at a Good Distance from the Other, before the *Nimy-Gate*, towards the East; Two Ravelins, and a Half-Moon, Consecutively, in a Lake, Considerably both Broad and Deep, (that Reigns, in Stead of Duke *Charles*'s Ditch, immediately without the Glacis, and Duke *Philip*'s Ditch, all Along, from the *Nimy-Gate*, on the East Side the Town, to the *Hayon-Gate*, on the South, so as to Surround it on these Two Sides, the Part on't on the East being Call'd,

Call'd, the *Apostles Lake*, That on the West, *Priests Lake*,) at some Distance from the Glacis, without the Horn-Work and Ravelin, that Covers Duke *Philip* the Second's Bastion, on the Right of the *Nimy-Gate*, towards the East; a Triple Fortification, of a Horn-Work, a Single *Tenaille*, and a Double *Tenaille*, one without another, with Moats Accompanying them, at the Distance of the Breadth of the Lake from the Glacis, and Duke *Philip's* Ditch, they being all on the other Side on't, before the *Havre-Gate*, towards the South; Three Ravelins, Consecutively, in the Lake, at some Distance from the Glacis, on the Right of the *Hayon-Gate*, likewise towards the South; an Odd Unaccountable Fortification, of an Irregular Horn-Work, with a Counter-Swallow-Tail, at some Distance from it, towards the Left, and Two Small Ravelins and a Quarter-Moon Lying Scattered between 'em, all in Duke *Charles's* Ditch Enlarg'd, without the Glacis, before the *Bartemont-Gate*, towards the West; and a Grand Single *Tenaille*, with a Ravelin before the Angle of the Right, in Duke *Charles's* Ditch, Covering King *Philip* the Fourth's Horn-Work, before the *Water-Gate*, towards the North-West. Last of all, for the further Security of his Out-Works, he Cut out a Third Ditch, likewise a Moat, Making it Go Round the Town on Two Sides, that is, the West and North, a Little without Duke *Charles's* Ditch; whereas on the Other Two, the East and South Sides, 'twas before hand Surrounded, and abundantly Secur'd, with the Lake, that is, the *Apostles Lake* on the East, and *Priests Lake* on the South, Both being but One Lake, tho', by the Works before the *Havre-Gate*, Divided into Two, and of a Sufficient both Breadth and Deepness, to Secure the Town on those Sides: He also Dispos'd of the other Waters about the Town, so as, by the Means of Canals, to Make them Run into the Ditches, into the Lakes, or into the Marishes, as he had a Mind, and, by the Means of Sluces, to Make 'em Run or not Run, as he had a Mind, whatever Way he Would.

What Kind of Works these Out-Works of King *Charles* the Second's were, we can't precisely Tell as to them all, Some of 'em being still on Foot and Entire, and Free from other Edifices, Others either Taken in, and Embod'y'd with the *French* Works, that have been since Made, or Levelled ; but by an Account of those that are on Foot, and Free, One may Guess at what the Others have been : They are Built of Earth, Revested and Encrusted with Stone, having their Dimensions somewhat, but not altogether, in Proportion to the Rampart ; Terminated with Platforms, Guarded with Parapets, and Banquets, Suitable to the Rest of the Fortification ; Planted in the Ditches, at the Distance of their Ordinary Breadth from the Interior Works towards the Town ; Surrounded with Water, or their Particular Ditches ; and Join'd to the Scarps and Counter Scarps, as well as to one another, with Draw-Bridges.

THAT was the Condition of *MONS*, as King *Charles* the Second further Compleated it, and This is the Length its Fortifications Came in the Time that he had it ; for after he had Brought 'em so Far, his Engineers, both *Spaniards* and *French*, Told him, 'twas a Town both Compleatly and Right Fortify'd : But it afterwards Appear'd, how much they were Wrong.

In the Year of Our Lord 1678. the War Continuing, between King *Charles* the Second of *Spain*, and King *Lewis* the Fourteenth of *France*, King *Lewis* March'd an Army into *Hainault*, under the Command of *Julius*, Late Duke of *Luxembourg*, who Came before *MONS*, and Besieg'd it, but afterwards Found it Convenient, because of the Watery Situation of the Place, to Convert the Siege into a Blockade, which he Continued so long, that Those within the Town were Reduc'd to very Great Straits, when the Army of *Great Britain* and *Holland*, and of the other Powers in Alliance with King *Charles*, under the Command of *William* the Third, Late Prince of *Orange*, and afterwards King of *Great Britain*, Came Seasonably to their Relief, Attack'd the Duke of *Luxembourg* with the
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French Army, Fought 'em, and Gain'd a Compleat Victory over 'em, at the Memorable Battel of *S. Denis*, where the *Scottish* and *English* Troops did Wonders, and where the Prince of *Orange*, Engaging too far among the Enemy, would certainly have been either Taken or Kill'd by a *French* Officer, if Meinheer *Overkerk* had not Come Time enough, and Shot that Officer through the Head : So by the Means of the Good Success of that Day, on the Side of King *Charles* and his Allies, the Town of *MONS*, for that Time, narrowly Escap'd Falling into the Hands of the *French*, and Continued still to be under the Dominion of the *Spaniards*. This Action was immediately Followed by a Separate Peace, betwixt *France* and *Holland* ; which, afterwards, Drew on a General One.

In the Year of Our Lord 1691. the War being again Broke out, between King *Charles* of *Spain*, and King *Lewis* of *France*, King *Lewis* Came, Himself in Person, with a Great Army into *Hainault*, Sat down before *MONS*, and by the Means of that Odd Unaccountable Fortification, of an Irregular Horn-Work, a Counter-Swallow-Tail, with Two Little Ravelins and a Quarter-Moon Lying between, before the *Bartemont* Gate, towards the West, which the *French* Took Sword in Hand, Forc'd the Town to Surrender upon Terms, after a Siege of Three and Twenty Days. The Prince of *Orange*, then King of Great *Brittain*, had Gather'd an Army to Endeavour its Relief ; but Could not Come up to it in Time : So the *Spaniards* Lost the Town of *MONS*, with all its Fine Fortifications, to the *French*, who Kept it during all the Rest of that War, and have had it ever Since, except for a very Little While.

No sooner King *Lewis* had Got *MONS* into his Hands, but, Knowing the Importance of the Place, he Resolv'd well to Keep it, if he could, and Considering the Faults of its Fortification, immediately Begun, that same Year, to Amend 'em ; and the *French* being One of the Nations of *Europe* that Understand the Art of Military Architecture best, they never Gave

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over the Fortifying of *MONS*, till, by Making Alterations and Additions Suitable to its Weakness and Wants, they Render'd it a Town Compleatly and Right Fortify'd, with all the Art and Skill they were Masters of; the Principal Direction of the Work, being Committed to the Particular Care, of the Famous Monsieur *De Vauban*, Lieutenant-General, and Chief Engineer of *France*, who has indeed Given it the Finishing Stroke, and Acquitted Himself very Handsomly in it, both as to Design and Execution.

First, he Repair'd the Breaches that had been Made, during the Siege, in the Rampart, and Those in the Out-Works, which he had a Mind to Preserve as they were; then, Beginning at the River, where it Goes out of the Town, at the North-West Corner, on the Left of the *Water-Gate*, from thence Going Eastwards, Round, he Made the Following Alterations and Additions. In the Rampart: A Small Bastion Flat, at the Saillant Angle where the *Park-Gate* is, towards the North-East; Another, Irregular, of the same Kind, in the Middle of the Distance between King *Philip* the Second's Bastions, towards the East; and a Demi-Bastion, likewise Flat, at the Saillant Angle, on the Left of the *Water-Gate*, towards the North-West. In Duke *Philip* the Good's Ditch: A Small Ravelin, before King *Philip* the Fourth's Horn-Work, Covering the *Water-Gate*, towards the North-East, the Tenaille of King *Charles* the Second there being Converted into a Part of his Cover'd Way and Glacis; a Second Rampart, Taken off from the too Great Breadth of King *Charles*'s Grand Cover'd Way, Beginning near the *Water-Gate*, having Two Bastions Flat in it, and Ending upon a Large Half-Moon before the *Castle-Gate*, which, with King *Charles*'s Two Half-Moons without the *Park-Gate*, and King *Philip*'s Ravelin before the *Nimy-Gate*, are Join'd together, Consecutively, with Traverses, or Galleries, the Whole being at the Distance of the Ordinary Breadth of the Ditch from the First Rampart, towards the North and North-East; a Small Tenaille before the *Courtine*, and behind the
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Ravelin, of King *Charles's* Irregular Horn-Work, Covering King *Philip* the Second's Bastion, on the Right of the *Nimy*-Gate, towards the East; a Half-Moon, Covering the Point of King *Philip's* other Bastion, (King *Philip* the Fourth's Half-Moon being between the Two,) towards the South-East; Two Small Traverses, one without another, a Half-Moon, and another Traverse, Consecutively, or one after another, in the Way from thence to the *Havre*-Gate, likewise towards the South-East; after King *Charles's* Next Half-Moon, there, the River, where it Enters the Town, on the South Side, on the Left of the *Huyon*-Gate, King *Philip* the Fourth's Two Half-Moons, Arch-Duke *Albert's* Bastion, and King *Philip's* other Half-Moon, before the *Bartemont*-Gate, a Cut-Work, on the Right of the Half-Moon, with a Double Counter-Guard, before the Two, all Three without the *Bartemont*-Gate, towards the West; a Half-Moon, a Traverse, another Half-Moon, and another Traverse, Consecutively, Join'd together, and Ending upon the River, where it Goes out of the Town, on the Left of the *Water*-Gate, towards the North-VVest, from whence he Began his Course. In King *Charles* the Second's Cover'd Way and Glacis: The Cover'd Way Reform'd to an Ordinary Breadth; the Glacis Double-Tenail'd, or Double-Angl'd, all Around; both Cut in some Places, on the Left of the *Water*-Gate, towards the North-West, at the Point of King *Philip* the Second's Second Bastion, towards the South-East, on the Left of the *Huyon*-Gate, towards the South, on the Right of Arch-Duke *Albert's* Bastion, towards the South-West, and entirely Destroy'd in one Place, on the Right and Left of the *Havre*-Gate, towards the South and South-East, for the Sake of the Passage of the River, into and out of the Town, and of a Communication of Water, between the Ditches and Lakes, about the Town. In Duke *Charles* the Warriour's Ditch: Three Half-Moons, Consecutively, in the Distance between the *Water*-Gate and the *Castle*-Gate, towards the North; a Large Voluminous Horn-Work, with a Tenaille, and a Ravelin, before it, in the Room of King *Charles*-

Charles's Swallow-Tail, ith' Middle of the Distance between the *Castle Gate* and the *Park-Gate*, towards the North-East, where a Canal from the North Enters the Ditch, and where the Ground Begins to Rise, and, Consequently, the Town to be more Attackable; a Grand Complex Fortification, of Three Large Horn-Works, with their Accompaniments, one without another, the First having a *Tenaille* before it, the Second a *Tenaille*, a *Ravelin*, a *Cut-Work*, and a *Quarter-Moon*, the Third a *Tenaille*, and a *Ravelin*, the Whole Running out, from between the *Park-Gate* and the *Nimy-Gate*, a Good Way into the Country, towards the East, where a Canal from the East Enters the Ditch, and where the Ground Rises most, and, Consequently, the Town is most Attackable; Duke *Charles's* Ditch Ending, and the Lake Beginning, immediately after the Three Horn-Works, in the *Apostles Lake*, a *Cut-Work*, and a *Quarter-Moon*, Consecutively, in the Room of King *Charles's* Two *Ravelins* and *Half-Moon*, before the *Nimy-Gate*, likewise towards the East, where the Ground Falls Low again, and Consequently, is Less Attackable; a *Half-Moon*, on the Left of the *Havre-Gate*, towards the South-East; Duke *Charles's* Fort, as well as King *Charles's* Horn-Work, Remaining, before the *Havre-Gate*, the First Serving as a Work of Communication thorough the Lake to the Last, and Consequently, Dividing the Lake into Two, a Small *Ravelin*, before the Horn-Work, on the other Side the Lake, before the *Havre-Gate*, towards the South, the Single *Tenaille* and Double *Tenaille* of King *Charles* there, being Converted into a Cover'd Way and *Glacis*, *Tenail'd*, and Surrounded with a Moat; in *Priests Lake*, a *Ravelin*, ith' Middle of the Distance, between the *Havre-Gate* and the *Hayon-Gate*, likewise towards the South; the Lake Ending on the one Side, the River from the South Entering the Town, and Duke *Charles's* Ditch Beginning again, on the other Side, another Grand Fortification, of a Large Horn-Work, a *Ravelin*, a Double *Tenaille*, and another Horn-Work, one without another, Running out, from the Right of the *Hayon-Gate*,

Gate, into the Country, towards the South-West, where the Ground Rises a Little along the River-Side, and Consequently, is somewhat Attackable; a Ravelin, on the Right of the *Hayon-Gate*, likewise towards the South-West; a Half-Moon, on the Right of Arch-Duke *Albert's* Bastion, likewise towards the South-West; a Horn-Work, with a Small Ravelin before it, in the Room of that Odd Unaccountable Fortification of King *Charles's*, an Irregular Horn-Work, a Counter-Swallow-Tail, with Two Little Ravelins, and a Quarter-Moon Lying between, by the Means of which the *French* easily Took the Town, before the *Bartemont-Gate*, towards the West, where likewise the Ground Rising a Little, the Town is somewhat Attackable; Two Ravelins, and a Half-Moon, Consecutively, in the Distance between the Right of the *Bartemont-Gate*, and the *Water-Gate*, where the River Goes out of the Town, towards the North-West, where he Began his Course. In the Ground between Duke *Charles's* Ditch, and King *Charles's* Third One: A New Cover'd Way and Glacis, Regular, and Tenaill'd; Reigning round the Town on all Sides, except where the Lake is, there being no Need for't, on those Sides, by reason of the Lake's being Sufficiently Broad to Guard the Works there; Cut in some Places, on the Left of the *Water-Gate*, towards the North-West, before the Large Horn-Work, in the Middle between the *Castle-Gate* and the *Park-Gate*; towards the North-East, on the Right of the Three Horn-Works, between the *Park-Gate* and the *Nimy-Gate*, towards the East, on the Left of the Outtermost Horn-Work, on the Right of the *Hayon-Gate*, towards the South-West; and entirely Wanting in one Place, on the Right and Left of the *Hevre-Gate*, towards the South and South-East, for the Sake of the Passage of the River, into and out of the Town, of the Entrance of Two Canals, from the North, and from the East, into the Ditches, and of a Communication of Water between the Ditches and the Two Lakes, about the Town. As for King *Charles's* Ditch, he Destroy'd it, and in Stead on't, Converted the Ground, immediately with-

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out the Outer Glacis, into a Grand Explanade, Reigning for a Great Way off, all about the Town, which he Fortify'd with Redoubts, upon the Avenues to the Place, as Follows: Without the *Water-Gate*, towards the North-West, on the Right of the River, a Ravelin, in a Moat, Join'd to Duke Charles's Ditch with a Traverse of Water, and beyond it, a Lozenge, likewise Moated, on the River-Side, further into the Country: in the Middle of the Distance between the *Water-Gate* and the *Castle-Gate*, towards the North, a Ravelin, Moated, and Join'd to Duke Charles's Ditch with a Traverse, as before; without the *Castle-Gate*, likewise towards the North, on the Left of the Canal that Comes from thence, a Lozenge Moated, as before, beyond it, further into the Country; Another of the Same, and the Village of *Espinlien*, on the other Side the Canal, Enclos'd with a Horn-Work; in the Middle of the Distance between the *Park-Gate* and the *Nimy-Gate*, towards the North-East, a Ravelin, Moated, and Join'd with a Traverse, as before; without the *Hayon-Gate*, towards the South, on the Right of the River, upon the Water-Side, the Mill of *S. Peter's*, Enclos'd with an Irregular Fort, being a Polygon, on both Sides the River, with a Small Ravelin before it, on the Right; it's Distance between the *Hayon-Gate* and the *Bartemont-Gate*, towards the South and South-West, Two Ravelins, Moated, and Join'd, as before, Consecutively, one after another; it's Distance between the *Bartemont-Gate* and the *Water-Gate*, towards the West and North-West, Three Ravelins, Consecutively, Moated, and Join'd, Each of em, as before. He also Dispos'd of the Waters about the Town, so as, by the Means of Canals, to Make em Run into the Ditches, and by the Means of Sluces, to Make em Run or not Run, as he had a Mind, and Run which Way he would: Especially, he Made Two Complications of Canals, the One, near the Village of *Espinlien*, towards the North, the Other, over against *S. Peter's Mill*, towards the South, which Equally Contribute to Drain the Ground, and to Defend the Town, on those Sides. Last of all, he Built a

Citadel, within the Town, being a Demi-Hexagon, Adjoining to the Rampart, on the In-Side, at the Saillant Angles, in the Middle of the Distance, between the *Barremont-Gate* and the *Water-Gate*, towards the West; which, because 'tis Inconsiderable, and of no Consequence, upon the Double Account of its Low Situation, and Weak Defence, both Lying in a Plain, and having Nothing but an Explanade about it, with a Small Ravelin before the Mid-Courtine, towards the Town, I shall Superseede any Further Description on't.

What Kind of Works these Out-works of King *Lewis's* were, we can very well Tell, for they are still on Foot and Entire; and I have Seen and Observ'd 'em, both very Exactly and very Lately. They are Built all of Earth, Revested and Encrusted with Stone and Brick Intermix'd; having their Dimensions in Proportion to the Rampart, as well as to One another; Terminated with Platforms, Guarded with Parapets and Banquets, Suitable to the Rest of the Fortification; Planted in the Ditches, at Regular Distances; Surrounded with an Abundance of Water; and Join'd to the Scarps and Counter-Scarps, as well as to one another, with Timber-Bridges, some of which are Draw-Ones, and some Fix'd.

THAT was the Condition of *MONS*, as King *Lewis* the Fourteenth of *France* Finish'd it, and This is the Compleat and Right Length its Fortifications Came in the Time that he First had it; by the Means of which, and of its Situation, 'twas certainly then Become, both Naturally and Artificially, One of the Strongest and most Impregnable Towns in the World: And it Continues to be so to this Day.

King *Lewis* Kept it, that First Time, till the Year of Our Lord 1697. when, a General Peace being Concluded at *Ryswick*, between Himself and the Princes in Confederacy against him, by the Seventh Article of that Treaty, he was Oblig'd to Restore it to King *Charles*.

It Continued again in the Hands of the *Spaniards*, till the Year of Our Lord 1701. when, King *Charles* the Second being Dead, and having Constituted, by a Testament, *Philip*, Duke of *Anjou*, King *Lewis's* Grand-Son, and his own Grand-Nephew, his Heir and Successor, by Virtue of that Claim to the Monarchy of *Spain*, King *Lewis* seiz'd upon the Town of *MONS*, among Others, for Duke *Philip*, and Keeps it, Now a Second Time, for him, to this Day. But the War Breaking immediately out again, upon that Ground of the *Spanish* Succession, and being just Now on Foot, between *Charles* the Third, Present King of *Spain*, Cousin and Successor to the Former, and King *Lewis* of *France*, with Duke *Philip* of *Anjou*, who Pretends likewise to be King of *Spain*, and King *Charles* being Powerfully Assisted by his Allies, the Emperor, the Queen of *Great-Britain*, and the States General of the United Provinces, in the Pursuit and Recovery of his Right, they are Like to Drive his Enemies, King *Lewis* and Duke *Philip*, out of his Territories, by a Sharp and Victorious War, and Oblige them to Quit their Pretensions, by a Sure and Lasting Peace. Last Year, they Luckily Got *Lille* from them; this Year they Easily Took *Tournay*; very Lately, they Bravely Fought 'em at the Battle of *Arquennes*; and just Now, they are Closely Besieging *MONS*: But, whether or not they'll Have it, at this Time, is Doubtful.

IN Fine, This is the Condition of *MONS*, as King *Lewis* of *France* Now has it, and That the Compleat and Right Length its Buildings and Fortifications are Come at this Time, as 'twas Founded by Prince *Alberon* of *France*; Refounded by *S. Waltrud*, Countess of *Hainault*, Built by Earl *Alberick* of *Hainault*, Rebuilt by Earl *Baldwin* the Third, further Rebuilt by Earl *Baldwin* the Builder, and has been Fortify'd by Duke *Philip* the Good of *Burgundy*, further Fortify'd by Duke *Charles* the Warrior, Amended by King *Philip* the Second of *Spain*, further Amended by Arch-Duke *Albert* of *Austria*, Completed by King *Philip* the Fourth of *Spain*, further Completed by King *Charles* the Second, and Finish'd by King *Lewis* the Fourteenth of *France*.

'Tis of an Oblong Round, or Parabolick Figure, Lying cross the River on both Sides, and Stretching it Self from East to West, the River Running from South to North. It has in Length, Taking it, from the *Nimy*-Gate on the East Side, to the *Bartemont*-Gate on the West, just Two Thousand Common Paces, that is, a Thousand Geometrical Paces, or Two Third Parts of a *British* Mile; in Breadth, Reckoning, from the Castle Gate on the North Side, to the *Hayon*-Gate on the South, 'tis Fifteen Hundred Common Paces, or Seven Hundred and Fifty Geometrical Paces, or Half a *British* Mile; and in Circumference, Going round Within, on the In-Side the Rampart, there are exactly Six Thousand Common Paces, that is, Three Thousand Geometrical Paces, or Two *British* Miles; but Measuring it Without, on the Out-Side the Outter Ditch and Lake, we Found it to be as Good as Fifteen Thousand Common Paces, or Seven Thousand and Five Hundred Geometrical Paces, or Five *British* Miles.

E N D.